

REMARKS

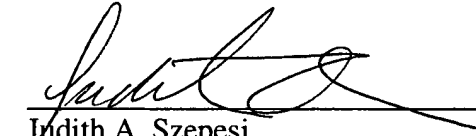
Claims 1, 6, 7, 8, 16, 21, 26, 27, and 28 are amended. No claims are canceled or added. Therefore, claims 1-31 are presented for examination. This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted within the statutory time allowed for such submission [37 CFR §1.115(a)], and contains no substantive changes to the specification requiring additional examination [37 CFR §1.115(b)].

We believe there are no fees due for this Preliminary Amendment, however, should there be any, please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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